

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Amendments to the claims:

Cancel claims 12-13, 35-36, 50-51 and 62-86 without prejudice;

Amend claims 1, 11, 14, 15, 17, 20, 23, 28, 42 and 49; and

Add new claims 87-94 as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An identification tag system, comprising:
 ~~an~~ a generally rectangular elastomeric identification tag having a long dimension and a short dimension, the tag including a pair of slots therethrough and means for receiving information associated with a specific wearer or object;
 ~~and~~
 an elongated elastomeric ~~flexible~~ strap and related fastening means for configuring and retaining said strap in a closed loop shape of selected circumferential size wrapped about a portion of the specific wearer or object, wherein said strap is threaded through said slots; and
 wherein said identification tag ~~being~~ is mounted onto the exterior of said strap ~~and~~ having a size and shape to extend beyond the width of said strap.
2. (original) The identification tag system of claim 1 wherein said information-receiving means on said identification tag comprises an information-bearing surface area comprising an outboard presented surface of said tag, when said tag is mounted onto said strap, and further including information associated with the specific wearer or object carried on said information-bearing surface area.
3. (original) The identification tag system of claim 2 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area.

4. (original) The identification tag system of claim 2 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area in human readable form.

5. (original) The identification tag system of claim 2 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area in machine readable form.

6. (original) The identification tag system of claim 5 wherein said information in machine readable form comprises bar code data.

7. (original) The identification tag system of claim 2 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area in human readable form and machine readable form.

8. (original) The identification tag system of claim 2 wherein said information-receiving means on said identification tag further comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) circuit carried by said tag.

9. (original) The identification tag system of claim 1 wherein said information-receiving means on said identification tag comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) circuit carried by said tag.

10. (original) The identification tag system of claim 9 wherein said tag has a multiple ply construction, and further wherein said RFID circuit is embedded within said tag.

11. (currently amended) The identification tag system of claim 1 wherein said identification tag comprises a relatively stiff and generally planar structure,

and wherein said flexible strap comprises a comparatively ~~soft~~ comfortable and compliant structure.

12. Canceled

13. Canceled

14. (currently amended) The identification tag system of claim ~~43~~ 1 ~~wherein said identification tag has a generally rectangular shape defining a long dimension and a short dimension, and further wherein said pair of slots are formed in said tag for slide-fit reception of said strap therethrough to orient said tag with said long dimension thereof aligned generally with a long dimension of said strap.~~

15. (currently amended) The identification tag system of claim ~~43~~ 1 ~~wherein said identification tag has a generally rectangular shape defining a long dimension and a short dimension, and further wherein said pair of slots are formed in said tag for slide-fit reception of said strap therethrough to orient said tag with said long dimension thereof extending generally perpendicular to a long dimension of said strap.~~

16. (original) The identification tag system of claim 2 wherein a substantial portion of said information-bearing surface area on said identification tag extends laterally from said strap.

17. (currently amended) The identification tag system of claim 1 further including a supply of multiple of said identification ~~tags~~ tag detachably interconnected to each other, and at least one processor station for applying said information to one of said identification tags, said resultant information-bearing tag being separable from said supply for mounting onto said strap.

18. (original) The identification tag system of claim 17 wherein said supply of detachably interconnected identification tags is provided in roll form.

19. (original) The identification tag system of claim 17 wherein said supply of detachably interconnected identification tags is provided in sheet form.

20. (currently amended) The identification tag system of claim 1 further including a plurality of said identification ~~tags~~ tag mounted onto the exterior of said flexible strap, ~~each of said identification tags having a size and shape to extend beyond the width of said strap.~~

21. (original) The identification tag system of claim 20 wherein at least one of said identification tags is color coded.

22. (original) The identification tag system of claim 1 further including a related group of identification tags each including means for receiving information related to a specific group of persons or objects, and a plurality of flexible straps, each of said identification tags being detachably interconnected to each other and separable from each other for respective mounting onto said flexible straps.

23. (currently amended) The identification tag system of claim 22 wherein said group of identification tags includes at least one relatively large tag and at least one comparatively smaller tag.

24. (withdrawn) The identification tag system of claim 1 wherein said identification tag further includes at least one detachable label including means for receiving information associated with the specific wearer or object.

25. (withdrawn) The identification tag system of claim 24 wherein said at least one detachable label comprises a plurality of detachable labels.

26. (withdrawn) The identification tag system of claim 24 wherein said label comprises an adhesive-backed label.

27. (withdrawn) The identification tag system of claim 1 further including a printable form having a first portion and a second portion, said identification tag being formed within said first form portion with said information receiving means comprising an upwardly presented printable region, and said second form portion including a plurality of adhesive-backed labels each including means for receiving information associated with the specific wearer or object.

28. (currently amended) An identification tag for mounting onto an elongated elastomeric flexible strap associated with fastening means for configuring and retaining the strap in a closed loop of selected circumferential size wrapped about a portion of a specific wearer or object, said identification tag comprising:

an a generally rectangular elastomeric identification tag having a long dimension and a short dimension and having a relatively stiff and generally planar structure, the tag and including a pair of slots therethrough and means for receiving information associated with a specific wearer or object; and

means for mounting said tag onto the exterior of the strap, wherein said strap is threaded through said slots and said tag having a size and shape to extend beyond the width of the strap.

29. (original) The identification tag of claim 28 wherein said information-receiving means on said identification tag comprises an information-bearing surface area comprising an outboard presented surface of said tag, when said

tag is mounted onto the strap, and further including information associated with the specific wearer or object carried on said information-bearing surface area.

30. (original) The identification tag of claim 29 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area.

31. (original) The identification tag of claim 29 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area in a selected one or both of human readable form and machine readable form.

32. (original) The identification tag of claim 31 wherein said information in machine readable form comprises bar code data.

33. (original) The identification tag of claim 28 wherein said information-receiving means on said identification tag comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) circuit carried by said tag.

34. (original) The identification tag of claim 33 wherein said tag has a multiple ply construction, and further wherein said RFID circuit is embedded within said tag.

35. Canceled

36. Canceled

37. (original) The identification tag of claim 29 wherein a substantial portion of said information-bearing surface area on said identification tag extends laterally from the strap, when said tag is mounted on the strap.

38. (withdrawn) The identification tag of claim 28 wherein said identification tag further includes at least one detachable label including means for receiving information associated with the specific wearer or object.

39. (withdrawn) The identification tag of claim 38 wherein said at least one detachable label comprises a plurality of detachable labels.

40. (withdrawn) The identification tag of claim 38 wherein said label comprises an adhesive-backed label.

41. (withdrawn) The identification tag system of claim 28 further including a printable form having a first portion and a second portion, said identification tag being formed within said first form portion with said information receiving means comprising an upwardly presented printable region, and said second form portion including a plurality of adhesive-backed labels each including means for receiving information associated with the specific wearer or object.

42. (currently amended) An identification tag system, comprising:
a supply of generally rectangular identification tags having a long dimension and a short dimension, each tag including a pair of slots therethrough and including means for receiving information associated with a specific wearer or object; and

a supply of elongated elastomeric flexible straps and related fastening means for configuring and retaining each of said straps in a closed loop shape of selected circumferential size wrapped about a portion of the specific wearer or object; and

each of said identification tags being mounted onto the exterior of an associated one of said straps ~~and having a size and shape to extend beyond the width of said associated strap~~ wherein said associated strap is threaded through

said slots to orient said tag with said long dimension thereof extending generally perpendicular to a long dimension of said associated strap.

43. (original) The identification tag system of claim 42 wherein said information-receiving means on each of said identification tags comprises an information-bearing surface area on an outboard presented surface thereof when said tag is mounted onto said associated strap, and further including information associated with the specific wearer or object carried by said information-bearing surface area.

44. (original) The identification tag system of claim 43 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area.

45. (original) The identification tag system of claim 44 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area in a selected one of human readable form, machine readable form, or both.

46. (original) The identification tag system of claim 45 wherein said information in machine readable form comprises bar code data.

47. (original) The identification tag system of claim 42 wherein said information-receiving means on each of said identification tags comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) circuit.

48. (original) The identification tag system of claim 47 wherein each of said identification tags has a multiple ply construction, and further wherein said RFID circuit associated therewith is embedded within said identification tag.

49. (currently amended) The identification tag system of claim 42 wherein each of said identification tags comprises a relatively stiff and generally

planar structure, and wherein each of said flexible straps comprises a comparatively ~~soft~~ comfortable and compliant structure.

50. Canceled

51. Canceled

52. (original) The identification tag system of claim 43 wherein a substantial portion of said information-bearing surface area on each of said identification tags extends laterally from the associated strap, when said tag is mounted on the associated strap.

53. (original) The identification tag system of claim 42 wherein said supply of identification tags comprises a plurality of said identification tags detachably interconnected to each other, and further including at least one processor station for applying said information to each of said identification tags, said resultant information-bearing tags each being separable from said plurality of identification tags for mounting onto said associated strap.

54. (original) The identification tag system of claim 42 wherein at least one of said identification tags is color coded.

55. (original) The identification tag system of claim 53 wherein said plurality of detachably interconnected identification tags is provided in roll form.

56. (original) The identification tag system of claim 53 wherein said plurality of detachably interconnected identification tags is provided in sheet form.

57. (original) The identification tag system of claim 42 wherein said supply of identification tags comprises a related group of identification tags each including means for receiving information related to a specific group of persons or objects, said related group of said identification tags being detachably interconnected to each other and separable from each other for respective mounting onto said flexible straps.

58. (original) The identification tag system of claim 57 wherein said related group of identification tags includes at least one relatively large tag and at least one comparatively smaller tag.

59. (withdrawn) The identification tag system of claim 42 wherein each of said identification tags further includes at least one detachable label including means for receiving information associated with the specific wearer or object.

60. (withdrawn) The identification tag system of claim 59 wherein said at least one detachable label comprises a plurality of detachable labels.

61. (withdrawn) The identification tag system of claim 42 further including a printable form having a first portion and a second portion, said identification tag being formed within said first form portion with said information receiving means comprising an upwardly presented printable region, and said second form portion including a plurality of adhesive-backed labels each including means for receiving information associated with the specific wearer or object.

62. - 86. Canceled

87. (new) An identification tag for mounting onto an elongated elastomeric strap associated with fastening means for configuring and retaining

the strap in a closed loop of selected circumferential size wrapped about a portion of a specific wearer or object, said identification tag comprising:

a generally rectangular identification tag having a long dimension and a short dimension and having a relatively stiff and generally planar structure, the tag including a pair of slots therethrough and means for receiving information associated with a specific wearer or object; and

means for mounting said tag onto the exterior of the strap, wherein said strap is threaded through said slots to orient said tag with said long dimension thereof extending generally perpendicular to a long dimension of said strap.

88. (new) The identification tag of claim 87 wherein said information-receiving means on said identification tag comprises an information-bearing surface area comprising an outboard presented surface of said tag, when said tag is mounted onto the strap, and further including information associated with the specific wearer or object carried on said information-bearing surface area.

89. (new) The identification tag of claim 88 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area.

90. (new) The identification tag of claim 88 wherein said information is printed on said information-bearing surface area in a selected one or both of human readable form and machine readable form.

91. (new) The identification tag of claim 90 wherein said information in machine readable form comprises bar code data.

92. (new) The identification tag of claim 87 wherein said information-receiving means on said identification tag comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) circuit carried by said tag.

93. (new) The identification tag of claim 92 wherein said tag has a multiple ply construction, and further wherein said RFID circuit is embedded within said tag.

94. (new) The identification tag of claim 88 wherein a substantial portion of said information-bearing surface area on said identification tag extends laterally from the strap, when said tag is mounted on the strap.